

ENS [REDACTED]

Below is a summary of a phone interview of ENS [REDACTED], USCG, conducted by the AIM informal board on October 23, 2006 concerning the diving incident which resulted in two deaths on 17 August 2006. The AIM board member who conducted the phone interview was LCDR [REDACTED]

ENS [REDACTED] was assigned as a break-in LSO to the night watch section; 2330-1130. She was also a break-in u/w OOD. Since OOD was her primary duty, break-in OOD watches took precedence over break-in LSO watches. The morning of 17 August 2006 she remembers breaking in as u/w on the 0800-1200 watch. However, she does not remember standing break-in LSO.

Her general recollection is that she was excited for the dive and that she was not overly fatigued. She remembers being tired in general, but no more tired than she was on most u/w days. She does not think fatigue played a factor in her decision making that day or the dive mishap.

ENS [REDACTED] remembers initially having her AGA straps on top of her hood. She switched the AGA straps under her hood to cover as much skin as possible and to get a good seal.

ENS [REDACTED] remembers writing an email about red flags, but that was just general venting about the dive mishap. During the dive she remembers being nervous because of her lack of experience, but not because she was noting things that were wrong with the dive operation. Since the dive she has read quite a bit and now recognizes many of the things that may have gone wrong. However, that day, having very little experience, she did not notice any red flags per se. She put a lot of trust and faith in LT Hill who had experience as an ice diver. She and BM2 Duque were there to learn.

The dive team had plans to conduct a physical fitness test and dive familiarization in Dutch Harbor. When the opportunity presented itself, LT Hill chose to conduct the dive familiarization u/w vice in Dutch Harbor.